

OKLAHOMA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

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Chairman Mark Liotta · Commissioner Jordan Russell · Commissioner Megan Tilly

Executive Director Hopper Smith

TO: Attorneys, Insurance Carriers, Self-Insured Employers, Group Own Risk

Associations, and other Stakeholders, WCC Employees

FROM: Commissioner Mark Liotta

Chairman, Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Commission

11/13/2020

With the apparent increasing infection rate of COVID-19, I am today reminding everyone of our temporary protocols which were put in place May 11, 2020.

In short, these protocols require all stakeholders refrain from physically entering WCC facilities except for contested hearings. Limitations on physical presence in our facilities shall be maintained as long as COVID-19 infection rates remain at a concerning level.

In order to remain open and functioning at a high level of customer service, we have modified all of our in-person processes to remote, electronic, and telephonic methods. These methods have proven to be efficient and workable, and provide an acceptable level of safety to our employees and customers.

Thank you to all who are abiding by these protocols, your cooperation is sincerely appreciated.

Our staff has asked for some specific reminders as follows:

- 1. Attorneys, when in the building, please refrain from conducting any business except for hearings. The records counter is very flexible in accommodating all of your needs remotely. We will consider exceptions to this general rule on a case-by-case basis, but any exceptions should be pre-approved before attorneys are permitted to conduct non-hearing business in person.
- 2. Employer services will still be permitted to conduct prior searches at the terminals in OKC and Tulsa due to their high search volume, as it would be impractical for WCC staff to fulfill these requests. The WCC records staff will continue to make appointments for searches, and all protocols for social distancing and face coverings will be observed.

Should anyone require a unique or specific modification of protocol for any specific case, our Administrative Law Judges and Legal Operations Staff will find a way to meet that need within safe parameters, just give them a call.

We look forward to the day when we can reopen to full, in-person customer service.